

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 227232

64

ORIGIN ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 IO-13 AID-05 EB-07 AGR-05 AGRE-00

STR-04 /085 R

DRAFTED BY ARA/CEN:DCJOHNSON:MKF

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USOAS;REWHITE (SUBS)

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

AMEMBASSY MANAGUA

USCINCSO

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E.O11652:N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PBOR, ES, HO

SUBJECT:FONMIN PALMA'S MEETING WITH ASSISTANT SECRETARY
SHLAUDEMAM

1. ASSISTANT SECRETARY SHLAUDEMAM MET SEPTEMBER 10 WITH A
7-MAN HONDURAN DELEGATION WHICH INCLUDED NOT ONLY FONMIN
PALMA, BUT ALSO FORMER FOREIGN MINISTERS BATRES AND DURON
AND HONDURAN CHIEF OF STAFF ELVIR. AS EXPECTED, THE
HONDURAS-EL SALVADOR DISPUTE AND MEAT QUOTAS WERE THE MAIN
TOPICS.

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PAGE 02 STATE 227232

2. ON THE HONDURAS-EL SALVADOR DISPUTE, FONMIN PALMA

DESCRIBED THE NEGOTIATIONS AS "SUCCESSFUL". BOTH PARTIES HAD AGREED TO A SINGLE MEDIATION TEXT THAT WOULD BE SUBMITTED TO THEIR RESPECTIVE GOVERNMENTS FOR APPROVAL. THE PARTIES HAD MADE AN INFORMAL COMMITMENT TO INFORM THE OAS BY SEPTEMBER 27 WHETHER OR NOT THEY ACCEPTED IT.

3. PALMA WAS HIGHLY COMPLIMENTARY OF THE ROLE PLAYED BY OAS SEC GEN ORFILA IN ASSISTING THE TWO SIDES TO REACH THIS AGREEMENT AFTER ONLY 48 HOURS OF NEGOTIATION. WHEN ASKED ABOUT THE AGREEMENT'S PROSPECTS FOR APPROVAL, PALMA REPLIED THAT HE BELIEVED PROSPECTS FOR APPROVAL IN HONDURAS WERE GOOD. FORMER FONMIN BATRES SUGGESTED THAT HE THOUGHT APPROVAL MIGHT BE MORE DIFFICULT TO OBTAIN IN EL SALVADOR,

BUT SAID THAT MEMBERS OF THE SALVADORAN DELEGATION HAD EXPRESSED OPTIMISM ABOUT THEIR ABILITY TO GET THE ASSEMBLY TO APPROVE. EL VIR SUGGESTED THAT THE SALVADORANS MIGHT BE HOPING TO HAVE THE MOLINA ADMINISTRATION COMMIT THE COUNTRY TO THE MEDIATION FORMULA AND THEN HAVE THE SUCCEEDING ADMINISTRATION BE REQUIRED TO CARRY IT OUT. HIS IMPLICATION WAS THAT POLITICAL RISK WOULD THEREBY BE SPREAD AS WIDELY AS POSSIBLE.

4. DEPT. HAS OBTAINED COPY OF THE AGREEMENT THROUGH USOAS. ITS MAIN POINTS ARE: (A) MEDIATION FORMULA WILL BE BASED ON 7-POINT RESOLUTION APPROVED BY 13TH MFM ON 27 OCTOBER 1969; (B) BOTH SIDES WILL SUBMIT A LIST OF 4 SPANISH SPEAKING JURISTS AND THEN THE TWO SIDES WILL GET TOGETHER AND PICK ONE OF THE EIGHT TO ACT AS MEDIATOR; (C) THE MEDIATOR'S FUNCTION WILL BE TO QUOTE HELP THE PARTIES REACH A SOLUTION IN THE SIMPLEST AND MOST DIRECT MANNER UNQUOTE; AND (D) MEDIATION PROCESS WILL BE SPACED OUT OVER A PERIOD OF SEVERAL MONTHS.

5. MEAT. HONDURANS REPEATED ARGUMENT MADE TO EMBASSY TWO WEEKS AGO FOR 10 MILLION POUND INCREASE IN EXPORT QUOTA. THEY EXPLAINED THAT THEIR REQUEST WAS BASED ON THE EXPECTATION THAT GUATEMALAN SHORTFALL WOULD EXIST, THEREBY ALLOWING FOR INCREASE FOR HONDURAS. DEPTOFFS EXPLAINED THAT SHORTFALLS MUST BE REALLOCATED ON WORLDWIDE PRO RATA BASIS, LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 STATE 227232

AND THAT IN ANY EVENT PROSPECTS FOR REALLOCATIONS THIS YEAR BENEFITTING HONDURAS WERE NOT BRIGHT. MR. SHLAUDEMANN PROMISED THAT DEPT. WOULD TRY TO SEE IF A SUB-REGIONAL CENTRAL AMERICAN QUOTA COULD BE ESTABLISHED NEXT YEAR. ROBINSON

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